

HA-1095
LAWDER-WILLIS HOUSE
Havre de Grace, Md.

c. 1901

This stylish four bay frame, double house with a Mansard roof was built with lumber from a house that stood on the southeast corner of S. Union Ave. and Congress Ave., where the Methodist Church is today. Architecturally the house is interesting as a vernacular blend of Second Empire Queen Anne and Stick Style. The mansard roof is reminiscent of the Empire style; the dormers, the Stick style and the different building materials show the influence of the Queen Anne style.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Lawder - Willis House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

450/452 Congress Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Havre de Grace

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

COUNTY

3 CLASSIFICATION**CATEGORY**☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT**OWNERSHIP**☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED**STATUS**☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS**ACCESSIBLE**☐ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☐ NO**PRESENT USE**☐ AGRICULTURE☐ COMMERCIAL☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ GOVERNMENT☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ MILITARY☐ MUSEUM☐ PARK☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ RELIGIOUS☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ OTHER**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Helen C. Lawder

-#450

Jon Willis

-#452

301-939-2005

939-2891

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

450/452 Congress Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Havre de Grace

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code
Maryland 21078**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Harford County Courthouse

Liber #:

761

924

Folio #:

316

899

STREET & NUMBER

Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Bel Air

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

NA-1095

CONDITION

☒ EXCELLENT
☐ GOOD
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☒ UNALTERED
☐ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

450 and 452 Congress Avenue is a detached double house located between Lodge Alley on the east and a stone church on the west. The house, two stories with a Mansard roof on an above-grade basement, has a four-bay facade facing north. A two-story addition on the rear with a one-story addition attached to it gives the structure a T-shape plan. Narrow weather boards cover the house, which is painted white with green trim. Separating the first and second stories is a wide band of imbricated shingles similar in design to those that cover the roof and dormer windows. The dwelling is built of lumber from a house that stood where the Methodist Church on S. Union Avenue stands now.

A four-bay verandah with a tin, hip roof covers most of the first floor facade (north elevation). The porch roof, supported by slender chamfered and turned posts, has a bracketed cornice; between the brackets is a band of open spindle work supported in turn by scroll work members.

Windows are spaced uniformly on the facade and Mansard. The two large first floor facade windows have one-over-one light, double sash and louvered shutters. On the second floor, the windows are smaller than those on the first and have six-over-six lights. Each of the second floor windows is located directly beneath a pair of scrolled brackets. The brackets are located on a fascia board which has an alternating design of raised circles and small rectangular panels. The panels are located directly above the windows and thus serve to emphasize them.

The roof dormers have pedimented gables, curved enframements, and stick style horizontal and vertical crosspieces within the gables. The windows contain four-over-four light double-hung sash. The gables are covered with the same shingles as the main roof. The rear (south elevation) dormers are not pedimented. A two-story bay joins the house in the middle of the east and west elevations. The bay has most of the same detail as the rest of the house: bracketed cornice, broad band of imbricated shingles between the first and second floor, and one-over-one windows with louvered shutters, and windows being narrower than those on the facade. The raised circles in the fascia board are not repeated although the rectangular panels and bracket placements are.

The entrance doors are contained in the two central bays of the facade. They are three-panel doors consisting of one glass panel in the upper half and two panels with deep molding in the lower half.

The main block has a Mansard roof with wood shingles, painted green, and a deeply molded bracketed cornice with a wide overhang. The cornice extends across the facade and follows the line of the roof along the flanks including the bays and across the rear. On the two-story wing is an asphalt covered gable roof with the ridge running north to south; the one-story wing attached to it has a sloping shed roof of tin with asphalt shingles on the lower slope.

(continued)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW		
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1901

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This stylish 4-bay frame, double house with a Mansard roof was built in 1901 with lumber from a house that stood on the southeast corner of S. Union Avenue and Congress Avenue, where the Methodist Church is today. Architecturally the house is interesting as a vanacular blend of Second Empire, Queen Anne and Stick Style. The Mansard roof is reminiscent of the Empire Style, the dormers, the Stick Style and the different building materials show the influence of the Queen Anne style.

For community planning the house is a very important architectural element in the 400 block of Congress Avenue forming a visual connection with the Silverstein Mansion to the east of it, the granite Methodist Church on the west and the Cobourn House across the street. Congress Avenue is important to the history of the town for several reasons. After the town was laid out c. 1781 by Robert Young Stokes, Congress Avenue was chosen as the site of the market place and the Episcopal Church was financed by lottery in 1809. The Hauducoeur map shows the Avenues, Congress and Union, to be 132' wide while the other streets are 70' wide. Recently the city has put in a mini-park overlooking the Susquehanna River at the east and the Chesapeake Bay at the foot of Congress Street, two blocks from the property discussed.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Harford County Land Records HD 23 60
 Hauducoeur Map - C.P. Hauducoeur, Engineer, 1799
 A proposed plan of the town of Havre de Grace
 Meigs, Cornelia - A History of St. Johns Church, 1809-1959
 The Democratic Ledger, 1959

Interview with Mrs. Helen
 Lawder, August 7, 1976

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE _____ COUNTY _____

STATE _____ COUNTY _____

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE Marion Morton - Architectural Surveyor

ORGANIZATION Maryland Historical Trust

DATE September, 1976

STREET & NUMBER 21 State Circle

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN Annapolis

STATE Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
 The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
 Annapolis, Maryland 21401
 (301) 267-1438

4 - 1095 LAWDER-WILLIS HOUSE Description (Cont'd)

The one-story shed addition on the rear illustrates the fact that the house is built of old materials. It has three-over-six light, pegged, double-hung windows and a vertical board door with iron strap hinge.

Two brick chimneys rise from inside the rear wall, main block.

On the interior the two houses have identical floor plans consisting of side hall with stairs at the end and two rooms opening off of it. Behind the two main rooms, in the addition, are the kitchen with shed behind it. The staircase located on the inside wall has turned balusters and a square carved oak newel post. The interior of #450 has been altered while #452 retains many of its original features including a slate fire-mantle with marble finish, round-arched opening and cartouche on the south wall of the dining room and sliding double doors in both the living room doorways.

The land around the house is well-planted with shrubs and trees on the front and sides and gardens to the rear. There are no outbuildings.



Garrett
Island

Perry
Point

HA1095

HAVRE DE GRACE

Concord Pt
Lighthouse

NATIONAL
GUARD
RESERVATION

Oakington
Sta

Havre de Grace
Consolidated Sch



LAWDER-WILLIS HOUSE HA-1095

450/452 Congress Ave. Havre de Grace

Marion Morton, Sept, 1976

northeast elevation

h
2



Havre de Grace Historic District

Harford County, Maryland

Wayne L. Nield II

July, 1980

Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis

452 Congress St., NW elevation of house

9/63